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California to Receive Federal Aid in Wake of Napa Earthquake

SACRAMENTO – A little over a week after Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. requested a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for California following the South Napa Earthquake, President Barack Obama declared a Major Disaster in the state because of the earthquake on Aug. 24, 2014 and made available disaster aid to affected areas.

“This is reassuring news for the areas hit by this devastating earthquake,” said Mark Ghilarducci, Director of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services. “Even though the ground has stopped shaking, the impacts to the community, local economy, environment and region haven’t gone away and won’t for quite some time. We look forward to FEMA’s continuing assistance in the important recovery efforts that began within minutes after the initial shaking.”

The President's action, in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, makes federal funding available to state and eligible tribal and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the earthquake in Napa and Solano counties.

Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for hazard mitigation measures for all counties and tribes within the state.

Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency shortly after the 6.0 magnitude South Napa Earthquake on August 24, 2014 and issued an executive order to provide additional financial assistance to local agencies and non-profit organizations. The order ensured residents can replace important documents and access key services without shouldering additional costs or other burdens.

Stephen M. De Blasio Sr. has been named as the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area. De Blasio said additional designations might be made at a later date if requested by the state and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.